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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): James J. Babka and Razvan Surdulescu

Title: EFFICIENT TECHNIQUE FOR MATCHING HIERARCHIES OF ARBITRARY SIZE AND STRUCTURE WITHOUT REGARD TO ORDERING OF ELEMENTS

Application No.: 09/898,708

Filed: July 3, 2001

Examiner: Cam Y. T. Truong

Group Art Unit: 2172

Atty. Docket No.: 027-0006

Confirmation No.: 2440

January 9, 2004

Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This paper is responsive to a non-final Office action dated October 9, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire January 9, 2004. In light of the Remarks herein, further examination is requested. No Amendments are being made at this time.

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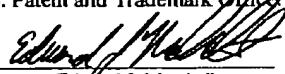
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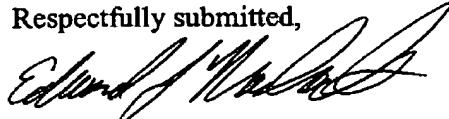
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ATTACHED HERETO:

(1) Response to Non-Final Office Action (7 pages).

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Respectfully submitted,


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